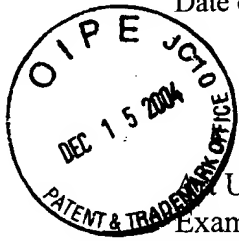


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Attorney Docket No. 23239-301C



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

Unit: 1635  
Examiner: Janet L. Epps-Ford  
Appellants: Ellington et al.  
Serial No.: 09/883,119  
Filed: June 14, 2001  
For: Regulatable, Catalytically Active Nucleic Acids

Boston, MA 02111  
December 15, 2004

**Mail Stop Appeal Brief--Patents**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR ORAL HEARING**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.194, applicants request an oral hearing before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences to present arguments in support of their Appeal Brief, filed concurrently herewith. Applicants have enclosed a check in the amount of \$500.00 in payment of the fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(d). The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 23239-301C.

Respectfully submitted,

*for: [Signature]* Reg No. 45,409  
Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529  
Attorney for Applicants  
c/o MINTZ, LEVIN

One Financial Center  
Boston, Massachusetts 02111  
Tel: (617) 542-6000  
Fax: (617) 542-2241  
Customer No. 30623

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